

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the above amendments is requested. With entry of these amendments, claims 2-9, 11-13, and 22-26 are now in the case. Claims 2, 3, 5-9, 11, 22, and 26 have been amended. Claims 1, 10, and 14-21 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

Claims 14-21 were canceled at the time the present application was filed. As indicated on the filing receipt, the application was filed with 18 claims, including 3 independent claims.

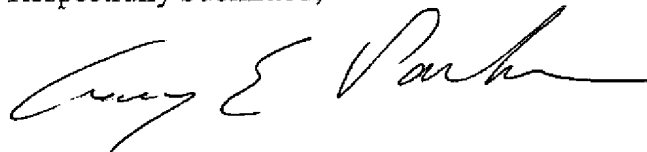
The claims have been amended to expedite prosecution of subject matter of commercial interest. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to correct an obvious clerical error. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims to canceled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-13 and 22-26, wherein the dimeric protein comprises residues 235-345 of SEQ ID NO:2. With entry of the above amendments, claims 2-9, 11-13, and 22-26 encompass the elected invention.

Applicants further elect the species insulin-like growth factor 1 for purposes of initial examination. Claims 2-9, 11-13, and 22-26 are readable on the elected species.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (206) 442-6673.

Respectfully Submitted,



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